

**FREDERICK COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION  
MARCH 25, 2014**

**MINUTES**

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I. The Frederick County Human Relations Commission met in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Conference room at Winchester Hall, 12 E. Church Street, Frederick, Maryland on March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Angela Spencer HRC Chair. Individuals were invited to recite the pledge of allegiance if desired.

II. The following members were present: Angela Spencer, Melissa Meath, Felcia Turner, Oladimeji Ibraheem, Annette Breiling and Irene Packer-Halsey

The following members of the commission were not in attendance: Tonya Amedon, Jack Thomas, Yemi Adeoye, Lisa Clark and David Kaye

The following members of the public attended the meeting:

Kavonte Duckett, HRC applicant

Francisco Alves, HRC applicant

Georgia McCauley, HRC applicant

Mari Lee, HRC applicant

Chief Ledwell, City of Frederick Police Department

Kathleen Hartsock, Liaison Frederick County Public Schools

III. The minutes from February 25, 2014 could not be voted on due to lack of a quorum.

IV. There were no comments from the public.

V. Officers Reports

a) Executive Committee

Strategic Plan Retreat – April 26, 2014 – The meeting will be held at the Public Safety Training Facility from 9-1. It is important that everyone try to attend. The agenda will include strategic planning and training that will benefit new members to the board.

Member Recruitment/Recommendations – All four board applicants were present at the meeting and each one took a moment to tell the current board a little about themselves. There was a unanimous vote to recommend all four to the BOCC for appointment.

- b) Treasurer's Report - Miles reported that there is currently \$3,907.20 left in the account for this fiscal year. The board began with \$5,770.00. Next month will have expenses due to the upcoming Awards event.
- c) NAC Updates – There were no NAC updates. Chief of Police Thomas Ledwell reported that there are a lot of drug awareness activities going on in the community. He was meeting with Dr. Barbara Brookmyer with the Frederick County Health Department to see about the possibility of officers carrying the new Heroin overdose antidote with them.
- d) Community Awareness – Angela let the commission know that there are many areas in which there are opportunities to serve in the community. She encouraged everyone to continue to do so and promote community service to others as well. Also she urged everyone to be aware of what is going on in the community and used the analogy “If you hear or see something say something”.
- e) Parliamentarian – Angela appointed David Kaye to the position and he has accepted.
- f) Discussion Topic - Discriminatory Language – A conversation among the BOCC members regarding Discriminatory language being used in general. Some of the members thought that an educational platform might be a way to address the issue. More conversations will take place on the subject at the retreat on the 26<sup>th</sup>. In the meantime the group as individuals should research the topic and share information with the members.
- g) Advertising Policy – Miles has checked with the County attorney regarding campaign ads. The commission was advised to accept the political ads and to put a disclaimer in the program stating that “The advertisements in the document do not reflect the views of the county and/or the HRC”. A policy should be put into place regarding other types of advertisements a draft will be presented to the Commission at the next meeting for review.
- h) Chief Ledwell will be invited to present the report prepared by them to the Commission at the next meeting.

## VI. Committee Reports

### a) Community Relations Committee

#### 1. Events for 2014, Dates and Venues

Celebration for Human Right Achievement – April 14, 2014 Dutch's Daughter  
Awardees  
Tickets

Naturalization Ceremony Tuscarora High School will be held on October 4, 2014.  
Angela shared that the Rotary Club may be interested in partnering with the HRC with hosting the event. They promote international Peace and Understanding.  
Civil Rights Reenactment March - September 27<sup>th</sup>

### b) Government Relations Committee

#### 1. Legislative Updates

Two Bills are on the table right now: Police training for awareness and Combating Human Trafficking and Employment protection for interns.  
Melissa passed out information for the upcoming 2014 Governor's conference on

## Combating Human Trafficking in Maryland.

A recent event in Texas was shared where a house was raided where they were storing people for sale.

### c) Internal Relations Committee

1. Fair Housing 2014/Fair Housing Commission Joint effort
2. A Proclamation will be made for Fair Housing Month at 3pm at the City of Frederick
3. There will be a housing event at the C Burr Artz Library on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Area homeless individuals will have a chance to speak out.

## VII. New Business

- a) Appointment of Parliamentarian – David Kaye has been appointed to the position.

## VIII. Old Business

- a) Commission for Women - Their awards event was a wonderful evening. The Commission will be hosting informational sessions regarding the New Charter Government that is coming to Frederick County. There will be 3 different locations and times: Urbana library on Tuesday April 29<sup>th</sup> At 6pm, C Bur Artz Library on Monday May 5<sup>th</sup> at 6pm and Thurmont Library on Monday May 12 at 6pm.

## IX. HRD Director's Report

Miles thanked everyone for attending the meeting on a snowy evening.

- The Executive Board is working on getting Commissioners plugged into the Banquet Agenda. Mr. Duckett will be presenting the invocation.
- Keep in mind the upcoming retreat. There will be some training on hearing appeals
- There have been 3 complaints this month. They were all related to employment.
- Miles invited all Commissioners to stop by the office and visit.
- Miles also encouraged everyone to have all ticket and advertising sales in by the 9<sup>th</sup> of April.

## X. Announcements

1. An event will be held on March 29<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the year of the girl summit. It is designed to lift up girls 5<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.
2. PAL has a program for girls at Hillcrest called Gal Pals.
3. Irene reported that The Frederick County Immigration Coalition is monitoring laws that are 287G's effects.

4. Kathleen reported that the last Drug summit will be held on April 23 at Oakdale High School the summits have been growing in popularity.

5. Kathleen said the commission should be looking for upcoming changes at the schools because of legislation regarding discipline regulations by the beginning of the new school year.

6. Concerns were expressed about poverty and its effects on school achievement by Annette. There is some grant funding to support tutors at schools and shelters that serve the homeless student population. The general budget provides funds for transportation.

XI. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm